

[Yes, Jesus

Beliefs and Customs - Beliefs [????]

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Title (Verbatim conversation) [Begin]:

Yes Jesus: I am firing to go...

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FOLKLORE

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Cassels R. Tiedeman

Charleston, S. C. 1/29/38 trans

(Verbatim Conversation)

"Yes Jesus! I am fixing to go to a grand place when I leabe dis world. De harder me cross to bear down here de better I go be prepare to tek me place in dat Happy Land where all is 'joicing, an' when I git dere, I want de Lord to say, 'Ophelia, you wuk is done to me own satisfaction, come an' rest wid de elect ob de Lord'. Dat is de day my Sabior (Saviour) is gwine declare me as white as any lamb ob God an' when I t'ink ob myself all white an' in dem trailing robe, dis little while we stay down here in sin aint nuttin'. It only mek me wrestle mo' better wid de debble. Dat old follow sho (sure) is a tempter. Sometime I sweat meself so you'd t'ink I been baptise wid watuh, an' I jes fighting dat tempter in de sperrit, 'cause I aint go do what, 'e put in me heart. Dat picture I see ob Hebben aint go be wipe out no time.

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“God aint fool nobody yet, an' of you let you foot ride de path you go meet de gate. De debble, 'e go 'company you ebery step, but on de odder side ob dat gate de struggle ob life is obber. You, lay em in Jesus busom, an' dis old wicked world you leabe behind is roll on to dis-struction. De debble mes' lak lose you at de gate, but den dare is plenty mo wuk for em. Aint no t'ing ebber discourage dat bad sperrit. 'E laugh an' 'e dance de debble dance any time, an' to say de path aint wide 'nough for all dem foot, an dem ones is him meat, an' 'e sho do rotten dem.

“Warn't dat Satan in de Gyarden ob Edum, right dere in God's 2 own gyarden. He tell de woman Eve to et de apple, an' done brung sin into dis world, an' right dere is when hell fust stat (start) to bun (burn).

“God dat mad 'e drive dem all two out an Satan 'long wid dem, after 'e done mek sech a beautiful place for dem to lib in.”

Source: Ophelia Jemison, Addison Ct. Charleston, S. C.